

February 2012



Arizona's Centennial Year

Graham County School News



Graham County School Superintendent

Donna M. McGaughey

Volume 8, Issue 2

"Providing Quality Service and Support to Graham County Schools"

Please visit our website
www.graham.az.gov

Superintendent's Message

The month of January was full of opportunities to work with our state and local educators. I was honored to host the Arizona Association of County School Superintendents (AACSS) last month. My colleagues came together to work on the Race to the Top guidelines and to outline strategic plans for working with the Governor's Office and the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) on how to effectively pool our resources for the benefit of our students.

We also took advantage of an offer from the Arizona State Library to host free database training for our teachers and librarians. Over \$1 million dollars in resources is now free to our schools. I want to thank Patti Hinton at Ft. Thomas and Lisa Wood at Safford High for hosting two training sessions for our local educators. In keeping with the "local opportunities" theme, the Graham and Greenlee administrators were able to participate in a half-day workshop provided by the ADE on the new Evaluation Framework.

I was pleased to be able to present to the Gila Valley Leadership Class during their County Government Day. Participation in these classes provides a fabulous opportunity for our community members to gain leadership skills and learn more about key (continued on page 2)

Dates to remember:

Feb. 7 ADE Quality Kindergarten Training. Register through ADE Events
Feb. 11 Centennial Parade
Feb. 14 **Arizona Statehood Day**
Feb. 15 Graham/Greenlee Math & Science Project 4:00 Gen. Services
Feb. 20 Presidents' Day
Feb. 22 Graham County Spelling Bee 6:00 General Services Bldg.
Feb. 24-25 Project Archaeology for all Social Studies teachers @ BLM
Save the Dates! ELA April 24-25 in Graham SEATA June 4-7 @ EAC

Contact us:

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*Happy 100th
Birthday Arizona!*

*President
William H. Taft*

*approved and
signed the
Arizona
Constitution at
10:00 a.m. on
February 14, 1912
creating the 48th
contiguous state*

Superintendent's Message continued from page 1

issues in our region. Our office, under the direction of Paulette LeBlanc hosted another successful Math and Science Weekend. This was the second of three weekends planned for this school year with the third opportunity taking place March 2-3.

We met with our potential funder for support in bringing Intel Math instruction to our educators and the good news is, we have been given the informal nod to go ahead and start recruiting teachers! K-9 math teachers will be hearing more about this opportunity in the very near future.

I'm looking forward to hearing what our schools are doing to celebrate our state's centennial. Please forward your plans and special activities to me. Happy 100th Birthday Arizona!

The Graham County Spelling Bee, which serves as the qualifier for the Arizona State Spelling Bee, will take place on **February 22, 2012** at 6:00 p.m. in the Graham County General Services Building

The Arizona Spelling Bee will be held on March 24, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at Eight/Arizona PBS—KAET studio at ASU Downtown in Phoenix

Follow the Copper Star

Centennial Committee News by Marlene Mott

The Graham County Board of Supervisors has appointed a committee charged with the responsibility of planning and carrying out events and activities that will celebrate the 100th birthday of the state of Arizona. Statehood day was February 14, 1912, therefore we are planning several activities the week of Feb. 11-18, 2012. These and other events are in the planning stages at this time.

♦ **100 Books for 100 Years!**

Several Graham County schools in grades 3-6, are working hard to read 100 books during this school year. They have until May 15th to finish the challenge, which includes reading a variety of books across all genres. Most schools already have reading programs, and this Centennial project is meant to complement those programs and should be easily adaptable. The Graham Co. Board of Supervisors have provided \$700, and the Graham County Sheriff's Office has contributed another \$500 to cover the cost of over 6,000 motivational prizes. The Graham County School Superintendent will provide commemorative certificates of achievement. **For more information, contact Marlene Mott at 928-432-3207.**

♦ **Centennial Week February 11, 2012**

A Centennial Parade is planned for February 11th with booths and activities. The Graham County committee for the Arizona Centennial Celebration is seeking entries for the Centennial Parade on Feb. 11 on Safford Main Street. Entries from all over Graham County — from Bylas to Bonita — are requested. The parade's theme will be "A Century of Progress."

Entry forms are available at Richards Music Radio Shack and at the Chamber of Commerce or to download on the county's Web site, graham.az.org. They can be turned in at Richards Music or to Nolan Reed. For information call Reed at 322-1528 or Murphy at 428-2442.

Project Archaeology

Investigating a Slave Cabin

Using Archaeology to Teach Historical Inquiry

Audience:

Teachers of Social Studies

Credit:

12 Recertification Hours

Dates and Location:

February 24, 4:00-7:30 p.m. &

February 25, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Bureau of Land Management

711 S. 14th Avenue

Safford, AZ 85546

Cost: Free to in-service teachers in Graham and Greenlee Counties \$25.00 for all others, to cover the cost of materials

For More Information:

Call Paulette LeBlanc at

(928) 428-9330 or

email pleblanc@aznexus.net

Register Online by February 9th

Call Polly in the Graham County School Office, 928-428-2880 or email her at pmerriman@graham.az.gov



Teach students to become archaeologists through the analysis of artifacts and archaeological structures using scientific and historical inquiry. Take this experience back to the classroom to better guide students when teaching your social studies standards through this simulation model.





2012 Eastern Arizona Regional Science Fair Winners

submitted by Paul Anger, Director, EAC Discovery Park Campus

Congratulations to the following students!

5th & 6th Grade

Earth Science:

1 st Emily Konopnicki	Ruth Powell School	Mrs. Pearson
2 nd Mac Talley	Pima Elementary	Mrs. Larson
3 rd Belisa Rios	Ruth Powell School	Mrs. Pearson

Life Science:

1 st Joshua Romero	Ruth Powell School	Mrs. Pearson
2 nd Frankie Arrellin	Ruth Powell School	Mrs. Pearson
3 rd Andrew Taylor	Pima Elementary	Mrs. Larson
HM Brianna Jones	Pima Elementary	Mrs. Bonds

Physical Science:

1 st Kaden Moore	Pima Elementary	Mrs. Larson
2 nd Kristin Bilicic	Ruth Powell School	Mrs. Pearson
3 rd Kritiauna Bryce	Pima Elementary	Mrs. Bonds
HM Allissa Salyer	Pima Elementary	Mrs. Bonds
HM Jonathan Merino	Solomon Elementary	Mrs. Lines
HM Sydney Fite	Ruth Powell School	Mrs. Cocke

7th & 8th

Earth Science:

1 st Taylor Swapp	Safford Middle School	Mr. Hanchett
2 nd Elizabeth Skinner	Safford Middle School	Mr. Hanchett

Life Science:

1 st Johnny Boren	Pima Jr. High	Mrs. Scorse
2 nd Jessica Taylor	Pima Jr. High	Mrs. Scorse
3 rd Cal Hargis	Safford Middle School	Mr. Hanchett
HM Torrie Beus	Pima Jr. High	Mrs. Scorse
HM Kaitlyn McDougal	Safford Middle School	Mr. Hanchett

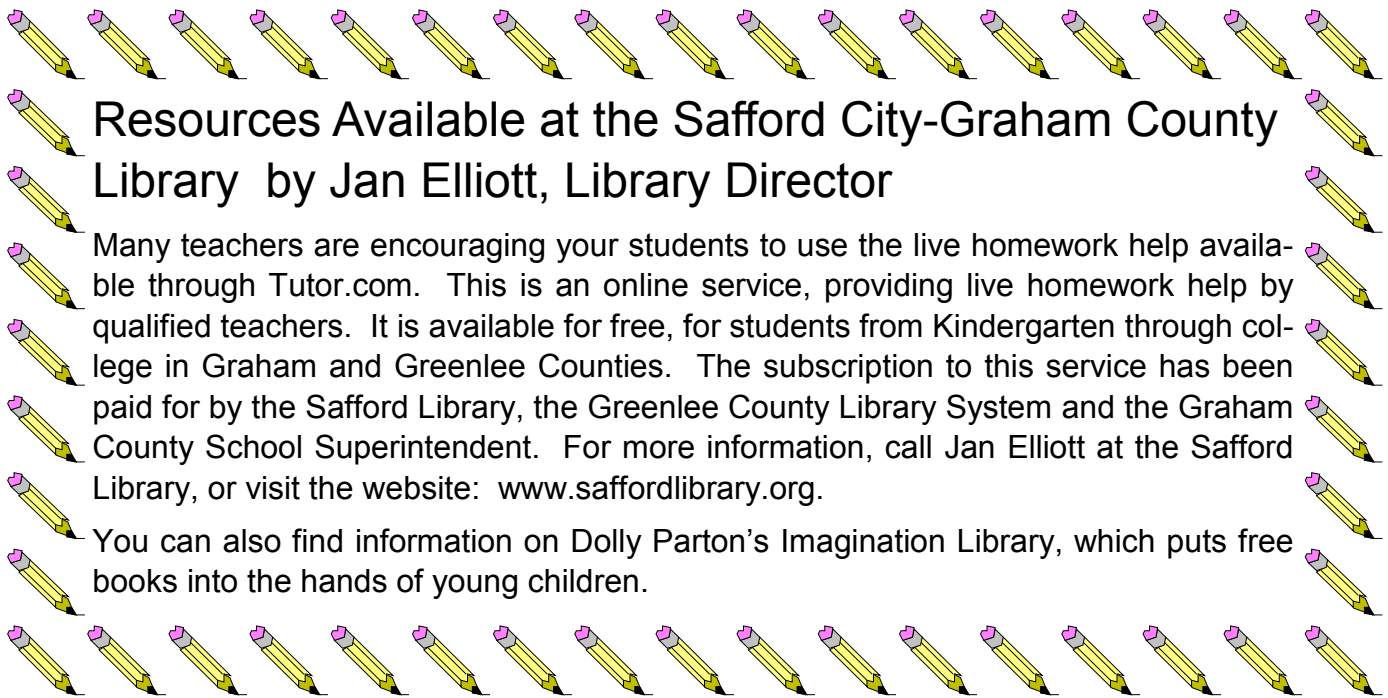
Physical Science:

1 st Payton Hawkins	Pima Jr. High	Mrs. Scorse
2 nd McKenzie Miller	Pima Jr. High	Mrs. Scorse
3 rd Sarah Bryce	Pima Jr. High	Mrs. Scorse
HM Sergio Aquinaga	Safford Middle School	Mr. Hanchett

High School:

Combined Categories:

1 st Heather Leamon & Maddy Windsor	Thatcher High School	Dr. McBride
2 nd Ethan Bryce, Ryan Hinch & Luke Ochoa	Thatcher High School	Dr. McBride
3 rd Klair Bryce, Kelly McCormies & McKenna Stevens	THS	Dr. McBride
HM Tyler Jenson, Brandon Jorgensen, & Presly Motes	THS	Dr. McBride



Resources Available at the Safford City-Graham County Library by Jan Elliott, Library Director

Many teachers are encouraging your students to use the live homework help available through Tutor.com. This is an online service, providing live homework help by qualified teachers. It is available for free, for students from Kindergarten through college in Graham and Greenlee Counties. The subscription to this service has been paid for by the Safford Library, the Greenlee County Library System and the Graham County School Superintendent. For more information, call Jan Elliott at the Safford Library, or visit the website: www.saffordlibrary.org.

You can also find information on Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which puts free books into the hands of young children.

News and Invitations from the GFWC Woman's Club of Safford



The Annual Sweetheart's Valentine Dance will be held

Thursday February 16, 2012

12:30—3:00 at the Woman's Club, 215 W. Main Street in Safford

This event is held for our local exceptional students and Blake Foundation clients. For more information, please contact Debbie Burnett, Woman's Club President and Valentine Dance Committee Co-Chair, 928-965-8959

Second Annual High School Senior Art Show

Thursday March 15, 2012

5:00—8:00 at the Woman's Club, 215 W. Main Street in Safford

Winners will receive monetary awards & there will be a Peoples' Choice Award

Light refreshments and entertainment will be provided

Judging by the Iley Art Guild of Eastern Arizona

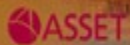
For more information, contact Debbie Burnett, Club President, 928-965-8959





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the Science
KID



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BIG IDEA

ABOUT WATER'S JOURNEY



generation **eight**

**Saturday
February 25
9 - Noon**

**Learn what's up
with our water supply
on the banks of
Arizona Falls in Phoenix**

more info & **RSVP** @ azpbs.org/sid



ARIZONA
SCIENCE
CENTER



ARIZONA
SCITECH
festival



For more information, or to schedule a free educator presentation or workshop, please contact Mark Becker, ASSET-Educational Outreach at mark.becker@asu.edu or 602-496-1696.

Local Professional Development Opportunities— SAVE the DATES!!

February 7, 2012 **Intro to Program Guidelines for High Quality Early Education: Birth Through Kindergarten (FREE)**—provided by ADE in the Graham County General Services Building. Register through ADE's Calendar of Events www.azed.gov

February 24-25, 2012 **Project Archaeology** (see page 3 for registration details)

March 2-3, 2012 **Graham/Greenlee Math and Science Project Weekend Workshops** at EAC
For interested educators outside of the project, cost is only \$25.00. Register through the Graham County School Office website, www.graham.az.gov (registration will open Feb. 6th)

March 31, 2012 **DIBELS Next**, hosted by the Graham County School Office and held at the Safford Unified School District Office (FREE). Register through the Graham County School Office

April 24-25, 2012 **K-12 ELA (English Language Arts Common Core)** provided by ADE, hosted by the Graham County School Office and held at SUSD. Cost is \$25.00 to cover the materials. Register through the Graham County School Office website www.graham.az.gov beginning Feb.6th)

And last, but not least —

Plan on attending the 2012 Southeast Arizona Teachers' Academy
"SEATA"

June 4-7 at EAC

Featuring Keynote Speaker

Dr. Mike Schmoker!

Registration for SEATA will open in March—SAVE the DATE!

In addition to STEM related opportunities, this year we will offer day-long strands in ELA, AZ Counts and Classroom Management Strategies

You won't want to miss this year's academy!

Hosted by the Graham and Greenlee County School Superintendents



Check out this year's **United States Department of Education**

2012 Discretionary Grant Forecast

The US Department of Education has finally released the 2012 forecast of the grants it will fund in the coming months. Resource Associates' team of expert grant writers would love to help you win these grants for your school or education agency! We have written over 500 awarded Federal Department of Education grants since our founding over 16 years ago. If any of these grants look like a good fit with your initiatives, please drop us an email or give us a call for a **free consultation**.

K-12 ED Safe-Schools/Healthy Students

These \$4,000,000 grants support school and community partnerships in their efforts to create safe, drug-free, and respectful environments for learning and promote the behavioral health of children and youth. Invitations to pre-apply are expected on: **2/2/2012**

Grants to Reduce Alcohol Abuse

Open to school districts and charter schools. Get up to \$1,350,000 to support innovative and effective programs to reduce alcohol abuse in secondary schools.

Anticipated application deadline: **4/20/2012**

Elementary and Secondary School Counseling

Open to school districts and charter schools. These grants provide up to \$1,200,000 to hire and train qualified school counselors, psychologists, psychiatrists, and social workers to provide greater student access to counseling services. Invitations to apply are expected on: **4/20/2012**

Teacher Incentive Fund

30 grants of up to \$10,000,000 each will be made to state and local education agencies and charter schools serving high-need students. These grants will be used to develop Performance Based Compensation Systems that reward teachers and administrators for student growth.

Invitations to apply are expected on: **5/17/2012**

Healthy College Campuses

Open to Institutions of higher education, this new program will support drug and violence prevention programs, including alcohol and other drug recovery and relapse prevention programs, and other efforts to prevent under-age, binge, and high-risk drinking, drug use, and violent behavior by college students. Details and invitations to apply are expected on: **5/31/2012**

Complete listings and information can be found at www.ed.gov

"Being Drug Free Starts with Me"
Tools for Me, My Family and the Community

7th Annual Graham/Greenlee
Substance Abuse Awareness Conference

EAC Activities Center

9:00am-4:00pm

April 25, 2012

Nominal fee will be charged

BUILDING A DRUG FREE COMMUNITY

Sponsored by:

GRAHAM COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE COALITION
GREENLEE COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE COALITION
EAC GEAR UP PROGRAM Freeport McMoran

For more information contact: Kathy 928.348.1751 or Briana 928.348.1756

Microsoft: DigiGirlz High Tech Camp

Microsoft DigiGirlz High Tech Camp for girls works to dispel stereotypes of the high-tech industry. During the camp session, girls listen to executive speakers, participate in technology tours and demonstrations, network, and learn through hands-on experience in workshops. Maximum award: free attendance to camp. Eligibility: girls grades 9-11 in the 2010-2011 school year and at least age 13 at time of application, with the exception of the Fargo, ND and Las Colinas, TX locations, where eligibility is restricted to grades 7-10 and 8-11, respectively. **Deadline: varies by location**

Best Buy: Teach@15 Award

The Teach@15 Award program improves classroom learning by helping schools (grades 7-12) meet technology needs. A teen member (age 13-18) who is a registered member on www.at15.com can nominate his/her school to win a Teach@15 Award. Maximum Award: \$1,500 in the form of Best Buy Gift Cards. Eligibility: accredited, nonprofit junior or senior public, private, parochial, magnet, and charter high schools in the U.S. serving any grades 7-12. **Deadline: ongoing**

Ben & Jerry's Foundation: National Grassroots Grant Program

Through the National Grassroots Grant Program, Ben & Jerry's Foundation grant program aims to further social justice, protect the environment and support sustainable food systems. Grants of up to \$15,000 are provided to grassroots, constituent-led organizations that are using community organizing strategies to accomplish their goals as well as organizations that provide technical support and/or resources to such groups. **Deadline: Rolling**

Earthwatch: Education Fellowships

The Earthwatch Institute offers educators fully funded fellowships for hands-on learning with leading scientists doing field research and conservation on one of 130 projects. Earthwatch's Education Fellowships are national in scope, and supported by a wide range of businesses, foundations, and individuals. Maximum award: full cost of expedition, including all research costs, meals, housing, on-site travel, etc. Eligibility: K-12 classroom educators of any subject(s) from public or private schools nationwide. **Deadline: Applications accepted on a rolling basis throughout the spring.**

Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation: Grants to Help Inner-City Educators

The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corporation's Limited GEO: Grants to Help Inner-City Educators fund specific, one-time future education-related needs or ideas that promise to improve inner city education within one year of the grant award in one of the cities eligible for foundation grants. Maximum award: \$2,000. Eligibility: small, concrete projects that will improve inner-city education in Boston, Hartford, Providence, New York or Washington, D.C. within the coming year.

Deadline: None

Campbell's: Labels for Education

The Campbell's, Inc. Labels for Education Program gives schools free educational equipment in exchange for labels from Campbell products. Maximum award: varies. Eligibility: Schools or parents coordinate label drives to raise resources for schools. **Deadline: None**

Scholastic Book Grants

The Scholastic Book Grants Program is a corporate in-kind giving initiative that provides high-quality reading materials to children in need. To download the application, visit: <http://bit.ly/uktlhz>

Deadline: Ongoing

GrantWrangler—a free grants listing service that helps teachers find classroom grants for school funding. www.grantwrangler.com

Cathy L. Davis

Arizona Geographic Alliance | Arizona State University | School of Geographical Sciences & Urban Planning

P O Box 875302 | Tempe, AZ 85287-5302 | 480-965-5361 * fax 480-965-8313

cathy.davis@asu.edu | azga@asu.edu |

<http://geoalliance.asu.edu/azga/>

976 S Forest Mall, Coor Bldg, Fifth Floor, Room 5677 (Zip 85281)

Ocean Literacy 2012

The next generation science standards are being developed now. A draft will be released soon. More information at

<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?CollegeofExploration/de728fd656/32bca36c3c/22220c4409>

We want to alert you to this activity and encourage your participation in the review process. We want to ensure the ocean and ocean science are a large part of the final document. Social media will be used to keep interested parties informed as much as possible. Please go to the ocean literacy page on Facebook and click on the "like" button at

<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?CollegeofExploration/de728fd656/32bca36c3c/079f1e2452>

100 Years 100 Ranchers ... Photographs by Scott Baxter

<http://www.azcentennial.gov/about/news/news.aspx?id=85>

For more than 100 years the ranching tradition has been an integral part of Arizona's history and growth. In celebration of Arizona's Centennial in 2012, Scott Baxter photographed 100 Arizona ranchers whose families have been ranching for a century or more. Baxter's powerful exhibit of black and white photographs, now on display through May 13, 2012, at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, documents 100 ranchers whose families have been ranching in the state since 1912 or earlier.

RESGI (Resources for Earth Sciences and Geography Instruction)

This is the web site: <http://webs.cmich.edu/resqi/>

This website contains links which are organized alphabetically around the sequence of topics typically taught in an introductory earth science or physical geography class. Links are also available for environmental science, earth science/geography education, career opportunities, and more. The sites selected are based on image quality, ease with which lesson plans can be developed, organization, authenticity, scope, and format. Check Alphabetized Earth Science Animations (AESA) for a links to almost 400 earth science concepts.

Would you like to receive a weekly e-mail featuring reviews of some of the best sites in earth science, environmental science, and geography? Contact Dr. Mark Francek

(Mark.Francek@cmich.edu) to be added to the "Earth Science Site of the Week" listserv.]

Classroom Earth

Classroom Earth is a program of the National Environmental Education Foundation designed to enhance and strengthen environmental education in high school classrooms nationwide.

This is the website: <http://www.classroomearth.org/>

Join here: <http://www.classroomearth.org/user/login>

The site includes professional development, grants, projects, on-line resources.

If you teach **social studies**:

The U.S. Mint This is the main website: <http://www.usmint.gov/>

The primary mission of the United States Mint is *to manufacture and distribute circulating coins, precious metals and collectible coins, and national medals to meet the needs of the United States*. In addition to producing coins and medals, the United States Mint also maintains physical custody and protection of the Nation's gold and silver assets.

For teachers: <http://www.usmint.gov/education/>

Freeport McMoRan Copper and Gold, Inc.

STEM Innovation Grants

Apply by March 1, 2012

www.fcx.com Click on: Sustainable Development, Community Programs and Applications

3rd Annual First Amendment Cartoon Contest

The contest is open to high school, middle school, and elementary school students nationwide.

Celebrate Bill of Rights Day with the 3rd Annual First Amendment Cartoon Contest

http://www.courtsed.org/cartoon_contest.htm The theme of this year's contest is Free Expression through the "rights of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." These rights are particularly significant in this an era of protest both in the United States and around the world.

Encourage students to exercise their creativity by entering the First Amendment Cartoon Contest.

Six winners will each receive a \$50 prize*. In addition, up to five entries will receive honorable mentions.

Winners and honorable mentions will be announced on Law Day, May 1, 2012, and posted at www.courtsed.org.

Deadline for submissions is March 16, 2012. For contest rules and entry form: www.courtsed.org.

Download: Contest Flyer at http://www.courtsed.org/cartoon_contest.htm

New to the area? Need Information?

The Graham County Resource Center is up and running!

It is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

It is located at 301-B East 4th Street

(across from the Safford Bowling Alley)

Safford, AZ 85546 928-428-7231

You can obtain information on all services offered in Graham County

The Graham County School Office has a professional library with resources available for check out. Please stop by and peruse the selection to see if there is something you can use in your classroom.

Graham County General Services Building

921 Thatcher Blvd. Safford, AZ

The office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.